

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE SARL NEWS SUNDAY 1999 JULY 4

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL transmitting Amateur Radio News , a service from the South African Radio League for the interest of all Radio Amateurs, Short-wave Listeners and Electronic Enthusiasts. For a complete list of broadcast times and frequencies please send a SASE to Amateur Radio News, SARL, P O Box 1721 Strubensvallei 1735. This bulletin is also available on the SARL s web pages hosted by Intekom at www.sarl.org.za.

NEWS HEADLINES:

SARL TAKES ANOTHER STEP IN THE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME INTECNET2000 ON SUNDAY 11 JULY TO DISCUSS APRS. * NEW RADIO DESIGN SOFTWARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM SARL BOOKSHOP

You are tuned to ZS6SRL, the news in detail next SARL TAKES ANOTHER STEP IN THE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The South African Radio league has taken another step in the recently announced Technology Development Programme with the appointment of Horace Deinty ZS5C as convenor of the construction project. Commenting on his appointment ZS5C said make no mistake - the existence of ham radio is at stake. We are facing the loss of our frequency allocations on a progressive basis. Our frequency allocations will be plundered by services claiming to put them to more effective use. For example - the observant will have noticed that there is a distinct revival in the use of wireless communications in lieu of fixed hard line services and for many other uses.

The HF spectrum is anything but redundant. The early experimenters who were rewarded frequency allocations because of their value to the State, and as reserves for the armed forces and government services, the electronic industry et al, have largely left the scene. Those remaining have become a fraternity of operators.

Useful? Certainly, but hardly vital! Horace Deinty has proposed a five point plan:

1. Improve our hobby and future prospects, by making it possible for hams to become experimenters again.
2. Revive home construction by making affordable equipment available
3. Seek new members from schools, Institutions, and the electronics industry.
4. Secure the support of Radio Clubs and individuals throughout the country to achieve the objectives.
5. Return to an organisation in which hams are united in one strong body. A detailed document will be included in the SARL Club Newsletter which will be Emailed or faxed to clubs in the next few days. If your club has not yet advised the Email or fax address to Laurie Devereux ZS5DL, please

send him an Email today at ZS5DL@futuresdbn.co.za or fax 031 765-6456. Please give the following details: your full name, name of club and Email address or fax to be used.

NEW DESIGN SOFTWARE AVAILABLE FROM SARL BOOKSHOP ARRL Radio Designer has heavy weight RF CAD features without a heavy weight price. It is now available from the South African Radio League at only R2130 (Plus R15 P&P) Members pay only R 1420. With ARRL Radio Designer you can build, test and evaluate audio and radio circuits without warming up your soldering iron, running out of parts or investing in expensive test equipment.

Here is just a small example of what you can do with this incredible Windows-based software: - model passive and small-signal linear circuits from audio to RF, including amplifiers, filters, matching networks, power splitters and combiners - measure simulated operating parameters and evaluate the effects of component tolerances - optimise circuit performance to meet goals you specify - and more. Included in the package is a detailed user manual, both printed and online.

INTECNET2000 TO DISCUSS APRS The next INTECNET2000 will be discussing APRS. The programme will be on the air next Sunday, 11 July at 20:00 and linked through various repeaters and relayed by Sentech on 3215 kHz. APRS is automatic Packet Reporting system, an integration of software and hardware that has become the latest application to take the packet radio world by storm. APRS allows you to track real-time events using packet radio. The guest on the programme is Bob Bruninga WB4APR. Radio Clubs wishing to link their repeaters to the network are requested to send details to sarlnews@intekom.co.za or fax the information to 031 765-6456.

The SARL bookshop has this week unpacked stock of two exciting new books: Packet: Speed and more speed, a book full of applications including APRS and Getting on track with APRS. The cost of each book is R185 retail. The member price is R125. The cost for packaging and postage is R15. Order yours while stocks last. Orders may be placed by calling the order hotline on 088 120 5042

IS THERE SOME ONE WATCHING US? The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence is continuing. Now you and your computer can also take part. Listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International this week details on how to join this exciting world-wide effort to establish who out there is watching us? The programme is on the air at 08:00 UTC on Sundays on 9750 and 21530 kHz and repeated on Mondays at 18:00 UTC on 3215 kHz.

FLARES POSSIBLE THIS WEEK Dwight West ZS6NT reports that for the period 2 to 8 July solar activity will be low to moderate with flux levels in the 180 s decreasing to the 160's. There is a good chance of a M-class flares occurring during this period. Geo-magnetic conditions will remain quiet to unsettled with active periods early in the week. Conditions should be good with some unsettled periods. Last week solar activity was low to moderate with the flux going into the 190's. The A-index reached a high of June 21 and June 28 Geo-magnetic conditions were quiet to major storm conditions.

A NEW RADIO CLUB WITH A DIFFERENCE The MARCONI Amateur Radio Club, which was founded on 9 June 1999 in Centurion, is a club with a difference. The club has not elected a committee but only two persons to see to the scribe and treasury matters. A group leader will be appointed for the monthly gathering to co-ordinate the activities for that occasion. One of the aims of the club is to bring back and further the technical aspects of Amateur Radio, the radio science and applicable general electronics by training, lectures, demonstrations and applicable practical projects. Club members get together every first Tuesday of the month at 19:00 in the Eldoraigne library auditorium, Probert avenue, Eldoraigne, Centurion. A radionet is held weekly on a Tuesday evening at 18:30, using a 2-metre simplex frequency! The club callsign is ZS6MAR.

SUNSAT PASSES Today 4 July, SUNSAT will again be in Mode B with an uplink on 436,291 MHz and a downlink on 145,825 MHz. The passes are as follows: AOS 11:04 AZ138 LOS 11:14 AZ 44 Max elevation 10 at 11:08 AOS 12:41 AZ173 LOS 15:56 AZ 343 Max elevation 69 at 12:49 Times are approximate based on Durban and will vary marginally in other parts of South Africa. Please send reports and comments to sarlnews@intekom.co.za marking the subject line sunsat

DIARY OF ACTIVITY On 17 July the SARL Regional Indaba will be held in KwaZulu-Natal. Radio Clubs wishing to participate should call Laurie Devereux ZS5DL on 031 709-1598. On 18 July the Zululand Amateur Radio Club AGM will take place at 10:00 for 11:00, at the home of John, ZS5J, in Mtunzini. Members who cannot attend are requested to fill in and return the proxy form that was included in the June club newsletter. On July 31 the Welkom Amateur Radio Club will be holding their AGM at 1st Dagbreek Padvinder hall on the corner of van Arrart Road and the old Welkom no. 3 Shaft road at 14:00 for 15:00 followed by a bring and braai. talk-in on 145,750. From 13 to 14 August 1999 the East Rand Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a special event station on HF and VHF at the John Vorster Stadium in Nigel. On August 14 there will be a boot sale from 10:00 12:00. There is no charge for the bootsale, but visitors will have to pay entrance into the stadium.

Radio Clubs are invited to supply information for inclusion in the Diary of events. Information must reach the SARL News Service by not later than two weeks before the event. Information may be faxed to 031 765-6456 or by Email to: sarlnews@intekom.co.za. The South African Radio League provides this bulletin of news as a service to Radio Amateurs and interested listeners on the African Continent. Join us on Sundays at 12:00 for the President's Net on 7082 kHz. This bulletin was written by ZS5AKV and read by ..

News in this bulletin was provided by the SARL News Service, Amateur Radio Clubs in South Africa, Amateur Radio Online and the ARRL. Every Sunday you are invited to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International. The programme is on the air on Sundays at 10:00 SAST on 9750 and 21530 kHz and repeated on Mondays at 20:00 SAST on 3215 kHz. Sentech, the common carrier

for broadcasting signals in South Africa and Telkom who provides the transmission lines, sponsor these transmissions. The following VHF frequencies are also activated from the Sentech Meyerton Transmitter site: 145,375 for the Northern Free State and Vaal triangle areas and 145,400 covering the greater Johannesburg area. In the greater Durban area there is a relay on 145,650 MHz. ends - ZS5AKV.